



CALIFORNIA GARDEN

... In This Number ...

THE AGAVE AND ALOE GARDEN IN BALBOA PARK

By Mrs. Mary A. Greer

About Wild Flower Sanctuaries . . By Mrs. Edwin S. Fuller

A California Garden : : By Ada Perry

NOVEMBER 1932

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The California Garden

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SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, NOVEMBER, 1932

No. 5

The Agave and Aloe Garden in Balboa Park

The idea and plan for this garden to be established by the San Diego Floral Association was made by Miss K. O. Sessions late in 1931, and a favorable location in Balboa Park was, a few months later, granted to the association by the park commissioners.

The grading of the land and the building of a road on two sides of the tract required many months which delayed the planting, but plants that were collected during the past three months have now all been planted. The mesembryanthemums that will serve as a ground cover among the agaves and upon the steep sloping sides of the garden will be planted during the coming rainy season.

All the different varieties of Agaves and Aloes that could be obtained in San Diego and many duplicates were planted and then donations from interested friends of the cause in other parts of Southern California were collected. All these donations were of varieties entirely different from any of the San Diego plants and of each other, so the number of varieties were increased, and their value decidedly greater. The Huntington Botanic Garden at San Marino, the E. O. Orpet Nursery at Santa Barbara, and B. L. Sloane, president of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, in Pasadena gave very generously of rare varieties.

The generous cash donations during the past year have amounted to \$115.62, which at this date has all been expended for labor and only a small debt is on hand.

It is anticipated that donations of other varieties will steadily, though slowly, increase the collection.

This garden in Balboa Park should in the next few years become internationally known, for this location is the very best obtainable in the United States where these plants will flourish in the open throughout the year, and San Diego is the best city for foreign visitors be-

cause of its excellent and equitable climate. The different aloes will bloom from December until May and June. The garden will be under the care of an interested and reliable park employee, and will require about two years of growth to prove its interest, beauty and value for Balboa Park and citizens.

MARY A. GREER.

Donors of plants to the Agave and Aloe Garden:

- Bakkers, Mrs. Neff
10 agaves, 5 varieties; 15 aloes, 8 varieties
Bradbury, Mr. E. P.—Fontana, Calif.
2 rare aloes
Cornelius, Mr. Wm.—Encinitas
2 agaves, 2 rare varieties
Green, Mrs.
29 aloes, 2 varieties
Greer, Mrs. Mary
16 agaves, 1 variety; 13 aloes, 2 varieties
Grant, Mr. W. E.
1 hybrid aloe, 1 rare agave
Hamilton, Mrs. Thos.
2 agaves, 116 aloes, 10 varieties
Hinrich, Mrs. G. H.
3 agaves
Shaffer, Mr.—Tujunga, Calif.
4 rare agaves
Huntington Botanic Garden—San Marino, Calif.
31 agaves, 11 varieties; 12 aloes, 8 varieties
Orpet, E. O.—Santa Barbara, Calif.
13 agaves, 12 aloes
Scripps, Mrs. Jas. G.—Seattle, Wash.
2 agaves, 1 aloe
Sessions, Mrs. Frank
8 aloes
Schwieder, Misses
6 aloes, 12 sedum
Stromquist, Mr. James
2 agaves
Sloane, Mr. B. L.—Pasadena
15 aloes, 11 varieties; 11 agaves, 8 varieties
Snyder, Mr. John
6 agaves
Spring, Miss A.
50 kleinia for ground cover
Thomas, Mrs. W. S.
1 agave, 16 aloes, 4 varieties
Tunnell, Miss Elizabeth
2 agaves, 50 aloes
Tuttle, Mrs. Paul
12 agaves, 2 varieties
Walker, Miss M.—Santa Barbara, Calif.
4 agaves
Walmsley, Mr. and Mrs. L.
Weeks, Mrs. A. M.
1 agave, large
Hay, Mr. Arthur
Two days surveying and laying out the planting areas and paths

Patronize the Garden Advertisers

Balboa Park

2000 aloe minima for the border of all the beds, 200 aloes, 7 varieties, many cuttings; 25 agaves, 15 varieties; 2 loads of hardpan rock, disintegrated granite rock to surface all the paths, complete water supply with 18 hydrants; 1 large circular sprinkler; 5 days labor

Sessions, Miss Kate

Her entire collection of aloes and agaves in variety and many duplicates; a trip to Huntington Botanic Garden and Nursery of Mr. E. O. Orpet, Santa Barbara, for a selection of their donations; also superintending all the planting and work.

U. S. Acclimatization Garden—Torrey Pines Park

6 rare aloes

Anyone interested and wishing to donate varieties different from those listed will kindly communicate with Miss K. O. Sessions, Pacific Beach, Calif. Arrangements will be made for receiving the specimens. No large plants are desired. Plants 6 to 18 inches are the best. The following varieties are wanted:

VARIETIES OF AGAVES

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Agave albicans | Agave marmorata |
| Agave Americana and its 3 and 4 varieties | Agave negeliana |
| Agave angustifolia | Agave nickelsiae |
| Agave apocynantha | Agave oblongata |
| Agave atrovirens var. sigma-tophylla | Agave polychantha |
| Agave attenuata | Agave rupicola |
| Agave brachystachys | Agave sartorii |
| Agave cantala | Agave salmiana |
| Agave cerulata | Agave serrulata |
| Agave chloracantha | Agave shawii |
| Agave corchoriodonta | Agave shawii variety |
| Agave deserti | Agave sisalana |
| Agave dyckia rariflora | Agave pectabilis |
| Agave dyckia brevifolia | Agave tequiliana |
| Agave ellemetiana | Agave treleasei |
| Agave filifera | Agave univittata |
| Agave ferox | Agave Utahensis |
| Agave ferox variety | Agave verschaffeltii |
| Agave Franceschiana | Agave victoriae-reginae |
| Agave Franzosinii | Agave vilmoreana |
| Agave huachuensis | Agave yuccafolia |
| Agave horrida | Aloe-gasteria hybrids |
| Agave kerchovei | Aloe-gasteria beguinii |
| Agave lophantha | Pethamensis |
| | and some few unknown varieties |

VARIETIES OF ALOES

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Aloe variegata | Aloe lateritia |
| Aloe africana | Aloe latifolia |
| Aloe arborescens | Aloe macrocarpa |
| Aloe arborescens pachythrysa | Aloe macroclada |
| Aloe arborescens winterii | Aloe minima |
| Aloe arborescens viridifolia | Aloe mitraeformia |
| Aloe arborescens natal species | Aloe mortolensis |
| Aloe bedinghausi | Aloe nobilis |
| Aloe brunnthalia | Aloe pernyi |
| Aloe cameronii | Aloe picta |
| Aloe distans | Aloe pianaarii |
| Aloe eru | Aloe plicatilis |
| Aloe eru cornuta | Aloe pratensis |
| Aloe eru erecta | Aloe preciosa |
| Aloe spotted eru | Aloe pretorensis |
| Aloe ferox | Aloe rubrolutea |
| Aloe glauca | Aloe salmdyckiana |
| Aloe greatheadii | Aloe saponaria |
| Aloe greenii | Aloe sessiliflora |
| Aloe heterocantha | Aloe schimperi |
| Aloe humilis | Aloe supralveis |
| Aloe humilis echinata | Aloe succotrina |
| Aloe lineata | Aloe yuccinata |
| Aloe linearis | Aloe vera |
| | Aloe virens |
| | Aloe spotted vera |

CHRISTMAS TREES

Christmas trees cut in the national forests this year will carry red tags certifying that they were cut without detriment to the timber stands, and in line with careful thinning practice and good forest management.

Sales and cutting are under supervision of the United States Forest Service, and the trees come from thick stands for which some thinning is desirable.

By far the larger portion of the annual

supply of Christmas trees, however, is cut from privately owned lands. Farmers in some states have formed local organizations to standardize their product, to obtain orders before cutting the trees, and to promote care in cutting, so as to get annual crops.

HOW THEY RESPOND!

Fine Effects Are Secured When Natives Are Given a Little Help

By Ruth R. Nelson

Unusually fine clumps of native shrubbery have been featured in the informal landscaping on the H. W. Whitsitt estate at Rancho Santa Fe. A pathway leads away from the sheltered patio to an outdoor grill beneath a pergola built of eucalyptus boughs and completely surrounded by tall shrubs of *Rhus integrifolia*, scrub oak, red mimulus, white ceanothus, spicy romero and toyon bushes. A few yuccas have also received special care, and elsewhere on the ranch the Whitsitt children have a small guarded place where wild mission bell lilies blossom every year. This spot receives the irrigation seepage from the avocado orchard, in consequence has produced mammoth stalks of flowers, the record being one with a twenty-inch stem on which fifteen lily bells and seven green buds were counted in contrast to the usual arching stem carrying from two to four flowers.

Preservation of native shrubbery continues to be one of the hobbies of Rancho Santa Fe landowners, where the shrubs already named are invariably retained wherever it is possible. On one estate groups of wild blue penstemon have increased enormously since being irrigated regularly. On another the thinning out of undesirable brush brought to light numbers of fine yucca and several beautiful manzanita bushes. *Fremontia californica* is a hardy native bush-like tree which has been used extensively to supplement the natural plantings. When in bloom its large, fragrant yellow blossoms, among broad rusty-backed leaves, makes a splendid picture.

Another favorite which responds nobly to cultivation is the spice bush, romero, so warmly praised by Father Juan Crespi in the journals of his leisurely wanderings between San Diego and Monterey. Romero has a bright clean foliage and transplants satisfactorily. Under irrigation it continues to produce its velvety blue stamen-filled flowers throughout the entire year.—Los Angeles Times.

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About Wild Flower Sanctuaries

The Wild Flower Sanctuary article of October is a most interesting one and will be read with great enthusiasm, no doubt, throughout the state. It seems too bad to pick flaws in it and only because there is a constructive suggestion following the unfavorable criticism is it done.

It does not seem beneficial for any flower lover to minimize the damage done by pickers. True, whole fields have disappeared through weeds, subdividing, cultivation and road building—but also rare bulbs and bushes and succulents and cacti disappear only through picking. For anyone to think he or she is in a "remote place" and finds plants gone in this day is not as the facts are—there are no remote places left—neither on private nor public lands. The aroused interest in the succulents and cacti drove ranch owners, and their friends, and their friends' friends to most remote places and brought out all that it contained—besides, what appears to be gone some years may come back if water and temperature is favorable another year.

Even in the Arvin fields—and there never were more prolific flower fields in Southern California—depredations of picking show up. The showy flowers are disappearing yearly. Coreopsis particularly.

To start sanctuaries is an expensive way to conserve plants. Groups with such an ambition change and when the instigator leaves too often the ideas die with him or her, and sanctuaries are the kind of public benefaction that needs permanent care.

But the state already has a Department of Natural Resources to which *every nature lover has a right to turn for help.*

There is some evidence to warrant one to think that this department is not the agent of the people at large—if this is true then it is time the people proposed changes that would make it an agent of all instead of for certain classes. After all it is from the people's pockets the department in some way or other gains its livelihood.

But it is from this department that proposals for sanctuary should come. This department should be so organized and have such a personnel that it would *know* without quibble or query where such sanctuaries should be placed and when and they should be set aside as the game refuges are at present. Ranch owners

may post their lands as game refuges with the approval of the Fish and Game Commission and also flower and plant sanctuaries should be so posted under the sanction and publicity of the Forest Department—or the Park Department.

Last summer the California Federation of Women's Clubs voted unanimously to make of the publicly owned lands: Forest Reserves, Game Refuges, roadsides, parks, et cetera, real refuges where hunting might not be done. It was the hope that by so doing several species of our wild life might not become extinct through hunting and trapping. It seems entirely feasible that these publicly owned lands might be inviolate for the public, allowing only camping and perhaps fishing, since it does seem feasible to artificially stock up our streams with fish—as is done in the National Parks throughout the country. Because of sanitary conditions the National Parks and the parts of the National Forests that are set aside for habitation are simply only a step removed from city dwelling. The publicly owned forests might be the place where people could go and camp and enjoy forest surroundings without the restraint of the city so apparent and these campers could study and learn about their surroundings, leaving them for others to study and learn about by leaving them alive: plants and animals.

It may seem a bit hard to say, but there is no reason to think children have an inalienable right to pick flowers on publicly owned lands nor on privately owned lands without permit. No more than it would be just to go into one's garden to pick them. It is just unfortunate they were born too late to get the privilege we older ones did enjoy. But we older ones have to suffer from the loss of the passenger pigeon and the numerous other birds we might have loved had others not killed them off before our generation came along.

Children as a rule have not been the greatest depredators except where they pick great bunches of flowers for sale—usually this is instigated by the older ones' suggestion that it might turn a pretty penny to do so.

To study plants children can easily be taught to do it in a most fascinating way—instead of dragging them for long distances from plant to plant to gather a bouquet, just let them sit down beside a group and study that group—California flowers almost always grow by

groups and it is nothing to find at least a dozen kinds in a six-foot square space. And make notes—that old, old formula of root, stem, leaf, inflorescence, flower and its parts, fruit, habitat, and “notes.” If recognition does not come that season—well, there will be other seasons.

Besides, while names are interesting and necessary, too, there are other things to be investigated; conditions of soil, shade, and plenitude; its neighbors; the use the Indians made of it; the historical or colloquial story connected with its name.

Whether something hides beneath it—a lizard maybe, or a snake—a beetle—or best of all, perhaps a bird!

Make no mistake, the love of this writer's life has been plants, plants, plants. However, one sometimes makes mistakes in loves and at middle age it is found that plants alone cannot entirely fill the heart of a true nature lover. Aphids are not solely the enemy of beloved plants; they are individuals and should never be destroyed with a feeling of hatred in one's heart, but with a sort of regretful resignation that certain things die to let others live.

To take the place of flower picking and material possession for children one might suggest general nature study and the understanding that it is only in spirit that children and adults own anything—it is only on such accurate knowledge of the relations of man to the other worlds about him real conservation can ever come and it is high time every man, woman and child in this beautiful United States gain that accurate knowledge by study in the field.

The state has the machine already and it is to this machine for conservation everyone should look for permanence of any idea.

MRS. EDWIN S. FULLER,

State Chairman California Federation of Women's Clubs of Nature Study and Conservation of Plants, Birds and Wild Life.

BARTON FLATS

San Bernardino Mountains

There are scenes and incidents in the life of men and women that are so delightful they indelibly impress themselves upon the mind and the heart.

It is a wise provision of Providence that, as a rule, humanity is prone to remember only the fine, the good things of life, and to forget the unpleasant. Were it not so, soon would we all be in the mad house. Some such pleasant experience came to me when it was my good fortune to spend the week ending last Septem-

ber 24th in that part of the heritage of men that bears the name at the head of this article. The elevation is 6,200 feet. Up where the atmosphere is clear as crystal. No fog, no dust, no poisonous gas of autos, nor smoke from factories to defile its purity. In very truth, to breathe it, is an elixir of life.

Two streams of cold water, clear and pure, flow down the mountain side singing, and making music to the ear that can hear, as it rushes over and among rocks that lie in their bed.

Pine and fir trees of immense size are plentiful. Their bark has been rubbed smooth with the hand of time, while the fingers of the wind have picked flakes of the bark and strewn them at the base of the giants. Lawson Cypress also grows to an immense height, the tops of the trees only, carrying foliage. The bark is fibrous, and grows longitudinally, divided by furrows as much as four inches deep. It is extensively used for ornamental purposes by the inhabitants of the village. Trees, like people, grow to maturity, and finish their course in the scheme of things natural. Many such trees are to be found among the youngsters which have grown up around them. There does not seem to be any provision made for their use, after their life cycle has been completed, by the Forestry Division of the state. This should be done, because they become too feeble to stand a storm, and blow over when assailed by violent winds, frequently endangering life and property.

To stretch out upon a bed of small twigs and leaves, and relax, is a luxury beyond compare. To gaze into the blue dome of the heavens, while bathing in sunlight, warm and exhilarating under such circumstances, is sure to dispel gloomy thoughts, and give one a new lease on life. One morning while enjoying life to its full, I saw a little pine tree that seemed to be filled with tiny spiders, every one of which sent out silken threads to the breeze. Myriads of them. Soon a number of yellow flies, half the size of Yellow Jackets, appeared for their breakfast, and in less time than it takes to write this, those spiders were devoured by their winged foes. To me it appeared to be an example of the equilibrium that Nature maintains in the insect world. Y. M. C. A. camps and all sorts of recreational centers abound in the arboreal paradise, during the summer months. Of course, during the winter, snow is deep, and only to hardy young life, in whose veins flow warmth and vigor, is the place alluring.

PETER D. BARNHART.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

By Ada Perry

Has it ever been your good fortune to come upon a child gardening, hoe clutched in his hand, dirt on his face and the lovely light of pure enthusiasm in his eyes? He doesn't know anything about weeds or the calamities that can happen to plants but he is experiencing the spirit of the thing, the joy of planting things to grow to a too-wonderful-to-be-imagined maturity.

It was a rather delightful experience to come upon this child in the George Marston garden, for three consecutive years the first prize large garden in San Diego in the annual contest conducted by the Floral Association. He wasn't there in the flesh but the soul of him was everywhere.

The Marston garden covers five acres or more and belongs to an extremely prominent San Diego family. It could be the most over-cultivated, fingle-fangled piece of property you ever saw. And do you know what it really is? Just five acres of beautiful trees, fine shrubs and hardy flowers, growing thriftily, gracefully and happily with plenty of room to develop and plenty of sky and sunshine overhead.

It has matured. It was started twenty-five years ago. But the simplicity that the pure love of growing things creates is everywhere. Coupled with it, of course, is the adult efficiency that overcomes the difficulties that arise in every garden project. But the child with the hoe has never been cast out. He is in every foot of the lovely acreage.

The property is on Seventh street at the head of the Park canyon. A group of fine, tall Canary Island pines stands at the beginning of it. Broad stretches of lawn slope down to the house. A Catalina cherry hedge edges it along the street side. Drooping deodars, thrifty live oaks and a sturdy yew grow at easy distances. A red berried shower of cotoneaster shrub catches the sun near the walk. Strawberry tree is grouped in one spot with its funny, fuzzy, red berries.

Below the house and on either side are two small canyons or canyoncitas. They are filled with growing things, native and foreign, and well upon either side, to a summer house and outdoor living room on the north and gradually to the driveway on the south. An area between, directly below the house, is wide and sloping and planted to green grass. The most beautiful eucalyptus citriodora imaginable row-

ers above it, with a white trunk like a giant of old. The lemon scent of its leaves perfumes the air all around.

Other beautiful eucalyptus gather around this area. They all have plenty of room and are very lovely.

The canyon sides are unterraced except for walks. The walks cut them at easy angles throughout. The growth is endlessly interesting. Tall grasses begin at the head of the south canyon changing to gay red montbreitias. The shrubbery on the sides, abelia and native rhamnus, go up to meet the edges of the silver gray flood of olive foliage in the park grove. Swinging back on the Marston side little acacia trees already beginning to bloom are carpeted with velvety gray santolina. Down below a fine-leaved jungle of leptospermum is edging the Park road. Vivid red toyon or native holly berries gleam here and there. Continuing on toward the north canyon they become more frequent until there is a mass of them at the foot of the north canyon and a glorious sight they are. Wild lilacs that are practically trees, join them here.

Other shrubs besides the native fill this north canyon. They help complete the beautiful whole. An effective group on the side opposite the walk consists of a large pepper tree with a mass of aloe candelabra under it. It must be a magnificent picture when the aloes are in bloom.

The head of this canyon is massed with healthy green-growing ferns. Above the ferns is an utterly simple yet inspired bed of forget-me-nots and snowdrops under an acacia tree, a treasure spot if there ever was in a garden.

Not far above it is the outdoor living room of the Marston family, a wide, quiet area with low walls of that finest of garden building material, mellowed brick. The grass plot in the center is unbroken except for an antique Spanish fountain bowl. The beds around the four sides are lovely with chrysanthemums just now. Next spring they will be filled with snapdragons.

There is a brick loggia on the west side of the center space, covered with the cup of gold vine and the dream of gold rose. Tiled plaques on the inside walls have the pleasing appearance of brilliant hues mellowed by time. Not far from this spot is a wall fountain of good size, cream colored with a basin of softened blue and crowned by brick red Virginia creeper leaves.

The California Garden

Editor
Silas B. Osborn
Associate Editor
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
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MORE ORNAMENTALS

One of the most rapidly developing branches of American horticulture is the field of ornamental trees, vines, shrubs, and flowering herbaceous plants, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Americans are growing ornamentals in a way unheard of a few years ago, and the demand for new and interesting kinds has increased greatly.

The San Diego Floral Association will hold the November meeting Tuesday evening, November 15, at 7:30 in the Floral Building, Balboa Park. Miss K. O. Sessions will speak on her recent visits to the Pasadena Gardens, also name and describe specimen flowers and shrubs brought in.

THE ANNUAL CHRYSANTHEMUM TEA

The annual Chrysanthemum Tea given by the house committee of the Floral Association has become one of the most delightful events of the fall months. This year the show was unusually attractive because of the artistic arrangements in the shadow boxes. The new silver framed boxes were in a more congenial setting in the club rooms than in the large show building. The many new exhibitors spent hours arranging their pictures and the exhibit as a whole showed much artistic ability, which perhaps was also due to the happy way in which the chrysanthemums fitted into the pictures.

Another satisfying fact to the directors of the show was the displays by new exhibitors. Every class was well represented from the tiny button variety to the large florist exhibition types. Never before have we seen such lovely colors in the pompon classes. One bowl of tawny anemome types ranged from light cream through eight shades to deep bronze. Mr. and Mrs. George Marston sent in a large display of many types but outstanding were dozens of huge brown and gold Japanese chrysanthemums. After the tea hour on Sunday hundreds of visitors bought individual flowers hoping to be able to duplicate them in their own gardens next year. The untiring efforts of Mrs. Mary Greer, the club president, has been for the purpose of encouraging the growing of more flowers and the show in October proved that home lovers appreciated the opportunity to see the results of others' experiences. Never before have there been such crowds and such eager questions as to the growing of chrysanthemums which the show proved are a desirable addition to San Diego gardens. Miss Kate Sessions, who always adds something unusual in exhibitions, showed some pots of lovely rose colored hanging basket chrysanthemums. It is said that in the lath gardens of Mr. Alfred Robinson on Point Loma there are many baskets of this new flower with sprays four and five feet long a mass of bloom.

The awards were given to the following exhibits: Best Collection of Garden Varieties from private gardens: First, Mr. and Mrs. George Marston; second, Mrs. John Heermance. Award of Merit, Mrs. Jennie Owens. Best display of single varieties, Mrs. Jennie Owens. Best display of pompons, Mrs. Jennie Owens. Best anemome types, Miss Lydia Schwieder. Best basket: First, Mrs. Thomas Frederick Warmes; second, Mrs. F. H. Lane. Best bowl, vase or

Patronize the Garden Advertisers

dish: First, Miss Lydia Schwieder; second, Mrs. Robert Hamilton. Award of merit: Mrs. DeForrest Ward, and Mrs. Oliver Evans. Shadow boxes: First, Miss Eleanor Carrol. Awards of merit to Mrs. DeForrest Ward, Miss Ruth Mannix, Mrs. K. R. Goodwin, Mrs. Robert Morrison and Miss Alice Klauber. Group of seedlings: Award of merit, Mrs. G. S. Harness; single entries, first, Miss Lydia Schwieder, and second, Mrs. Wendel Brandt. Professional displays: First, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Roepke; second, Rose Court Floral Company; third, Sunny Hill Nursery of Ramona.

VANDALISM

At this time I'm not thinking of the vandals who go forth week-ends, and, with knife and shears, pick and shovel, to cut and slash, to dig and destroy native plant life.

It may be said in all truth that they are refined in manner, even if ignorant in mind, and are highly respectable people when compared with the vandals who profess to be landscape architects. Marvelous, too, is the fact that these professionals charge and receive large fees for their destructive practices. The inspiration of this article is the scene which came under my observation not long since. It is on a large estate of a supposedly wealthy man. A hillside once covered with a luxuriant growth of California Lilac. These trees were removed, root and branch, the ground terraced, and a sprinkling system installed preparatory for a vegetable garden. Frequently ground must be graded for the location of buildings. In such cases there is excuse for the destruction of chaparral, but never for the destruction of a tree, that has taken a century or more for growth and development.

Locate the buildings to suit the tree; never make a tree fit into the scheme of buildings. A remarkable example of this idea may be seen on the main street of Santa Barbara. Once upon a time some fellow had a desire to build a restaurant on a lot, on which grew a fine specimen of our native Fan Palm. Instead of cutting the tree down, he erected the building around it, and today the bulky column of that tree is in the centre of the room, while its leaves wave in majestic style over the roof. Every time I go to that town, I eat one meal there for sentimental reasons. There are cleaner places in which to break a fast, but not one that contains as much sentiment. This is a digression from the subject, Vandalism. Let's get back to the hillside denuded of its original beauty. The idea the fellow had in mind was

to grow vegetables for the family. Think of it, reader. Three bunches of beets for ten cents. Two heads of lettuce for five cents. A bunch of carrots for one cent. There was enough money spent on that hillside to convert it into a vegetable garden to buy all the vegetables the family could use during their lifetime. The result: a hillside devastated of all its natural beauty, and if some sane man gets hold of the tract and has a desire to restore it to its original beauty, it will take him ten years to complete the job. My prayer is: "Good Lord, deliver us from the work of the educated, the sophisticated, VANDAL."

PETER D. BARNHART.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL CARD PARTY

On November 18 the house committee of the San Diego Floral Association will give their annual card party in the club rooms in Balboa Park. This event is always delightful because it is the one social time in the year when the members gather in an effort to swell the treasury of the club aside from flower exhibits. And yet flowers play a prominent part even at the card party because the rooms are always lavishly decorated with the finest of the season and prizes for each table are pots of gay blooming cyclamen. The many fine projects of the association are worthy of the support of every member at this party. All of us are proud of the growing aloe and agave garden next to the Yorick theatre, but naturally it is not being established there without the expenditure of money. We are all proud of the fine magazine, California Gardens, but the subscription list comes far from covering the expense of its publication. We are all proud of our beautiful club rooms, but the upkeep is something to be considered, so it behooves us all to take advantage of a pleasant afternoon of cards and tea with friends and know that by paying for that privilege we are helping carry on with the never ending need for the beautifying of our community.

MESEMBRYANTHEMUM VARIETIES AVAILABLE IN SAN DIEGO

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mesem. aberdennensi | Mesem. glaucum m |
| Mesem. aequilaterale | Mesem. integrum |
| Mesem. alstonii | Mesem. laeve |
| Mesem. aureum | Mesem. lehmannii |
| Mesem. brownii in several shades | Mesem. linguaeforme |
| Mesem. Bulbusii | Mesem. puterillii |
| Mesem. caulescens | Mesem. rhombordeum |
| Mesem. croceum | Mesem. roseum |
| Mesem. deltoides | Mesem. roseum hybrid, 3 varieties |
| Mesem. echinatum | Mesem. speciosum |
| Mesem. ecklonis | Mesem. tenuifolia |
| Mesem. edule | Mesem. tigrinum |
| Mesem. filicaule | Mesem. tuberculatum |
| Mesem. floribundum | Mesem. vespertinum |
| | Mesem. violaceum |

Patronize the Garden Advertisers

Cactus Garden of the Huntington Estate

By C. I. JERABEK

During my vacation I had the pleasure of again visiting the Huntington Gardens. The cactus section is undoubtedly the most famous garden of its kind in the United States if not the world. This garden has been developed under the supervision of Mr. Wm. Hertrich; it was not made in a month nor a year, but has been improved and enlarged from time to time over a long period of years.

People who are not interested in xerophilous plants have very little idea of the mystic beauty, the many fantastic shapes or the wonderful and delicate blossoms they produce. Many of their blossoms look almost as though they were made of wax and in such lovely colors as to bring forth exclamations of surprise and admiration.

I entered the Euphorbia section first to examine the various types. (A few words about these plants. They all produce a milky juice, but all plants that have this milky sap are not Euphorbia, neither are all Euphorbia cactus like in appearance.) Upon entering I noticed an *E. abyssinica* about five feet in height, a straight stalk of many thorny ribs with a few leaves near the top. *E. virosa* (formerly called *coerulescens*) formed by a clump of erect stems three to five feet high and two inches in diameter with very horny margins. *E. heptagon*, a plant six feet in height, formed of about one hundred stalks; several *E. caput-medusae* major and minor, primarily known as "Medusa's Head"; a beautiful *E. bupleurifolia* which was in flower, the flowers were a greenish color about the size of a five-cent piece.

As there are some twenty thousand specimens in this garden I only took note of one here and there that struck my fancy. A *sempervivum canariensis* this plant at least fifteen inches in diameter; another favorite, *Cleistocactus baumanni* var. *columnbinus*, a cactus with several stalks about three feet high, an inch or so in diameter covered the year round with vermillion-red flowers, two inches long resembling Christmas candles. Nearby was another beauty, a crested *Nyctocereus serpentinus* (Flor de la noche) a night bloomer.

Traversing the many cross-walks of this eight acre patch, I saw colonies of *Echinocactus grusonii*, glittering like golden barrels in the sunshine; monstrous growth of *Echinacactus visnaga* which were crowned with gorgeous orange-yellow blossoms; *Astraphytum myriostegma*, commonly called Bishop's Cap, one of the most attractive of the smaller cacti, in this group were *A. retusus*, *A. ornatum* and *A. capricorne*.

Every desert garden to be interesting must be a separate creation. In the last few years Mr. Hertrich has added eight carloads of volcanic rock from Death Valley, this was made up in terraces and hummocks, also the gravelly paths give it a real deserty appearance and in the summer when the thermometer registers 110° Fahrenheit you might think you were actually there.

On one of these rocky hills are ten large bunches of *Pachycereus marginatus*, famous as the "Organ Cactus" used in Mexico for fences; many

Cephalocereus senilis (Old Man Cactus) a columnar erect cacti, when young covered with abundance of shaggy white hair; this variety is very much desired by all collectors. In this plot are several twelve to fourteen feet in height.

No matter which way you looked there could be seen many interesting plants; *Opuntia aoracantha*, with barbless spines a foot long, this species is related to *O. papyacantha*, the paper spined cactus; *O. stapelliformis* resembling a stapelia as the name suggests. *O. kleiniae* similar to a kleinia. One plant of particular note is *Oreocereus celsianus*, a columnar plant four feet in height, the stalk covered with light brown spines and gray hair, I was informed it was valued at one thousand dollars.

Very noticeable are the many magnificent Yucca, several *Y. radiosa* twenty feet in height, which had several large spikes of beautiful white blossoms; *Y. alofolia* with golden margined leaves and then there are those majestic *Samuela faxoniana* and *Beaucainea gracilis* at least twenty-five feet high.

Very outstanding were the immense inflorescence of the Agaves, *A. huachucensis* whose scape had burst forth into many beautiful yellow flowers; *A. carchariodonta* with its graceful arching flowering stalk; a mottled leaved *A. American* sending up its asparagus like stalk; *A. victorareginae* with its green and white variegated leaves its floral axis ten feet in height. Another unusual sight was an *A. attenuata* with its arching inflorescence covered with numerous small plants.

One of the most attractive is an immense clump of *Puya chilensis* which sent up a bloom spike ten feet in height yucca-like in appearance, the flowers greenish-yellow.

In this garden are thirty-six specimens of the giant or columnar cacti of which only one the *Carnegiea gigantea* (Suwano or Giant Cactus) is a native of the United States. Of particular note were several whose system of stems were shooting skyward from ten to twenty feet, these were covered with flowers or seed capsules, *Cereus Xanthocirpus*, *C. pamacara* and *C. peruvianus* seemed to be more noticeable.

A most peculiar tree caught my eye, *Idria columnaris* (The Cirio), a tree with a tapering trunk with yellowish-green bark, eighteen feet in height, with numberless extremely thorny branchlets covered with small leaves, the flowers are a dull yellow and grow near the tops of the trees.

After going back and forth through the garden to my heart's content I went to several vantage points to gaze out over this vast cactus garden. The panorama of the many strange and weird monuments of past ages was awe inspiring, in fact to anyone privileged to see it an unforgettable sight.

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PLANT RESEARCH YACHT LANDS LARGE CARIBBEAN COLLECTION

Returning from his sixth voyage for the Department of Agriculture, Allison V. Armour and his research vessel, the S. S. "Utowana," tied up at the Washington Navy Yard and on April 11 unloaded a comprehensive collection of plants, seeds and cuttings. These were gathered together during a three months' trip through the Caribbean from the Bahamas down through the Leeward, Windward and Trinidad groups to Demerara and Surinam, on the coast of South America. Dr. David Fairchild, organizer and formerly director of the activities of the Division of Foreign Plant Introduction; P. H. Dorsett, veteran explorer of the Division; H. F. Loomis of the Division of Cotton, Rubber and Other Tropical Plants; and Leonard R. Toy of the Homestead Substation of the Florida Experiment Station, together with Mr. Armour, formed the scientific staff of the expedition.

The objects of the expedition were to find, if possible, the original ancestor of the long-staple Sea Island cotton, which is supposed to have come from the West Indies at an early date, and to collect and introduce fruits, vegetables, legumes and other forage plants, and ornamentals—trees, vines and shrubs which would be of value to the South-eastern and Southern States.

The ship visited thirty-two islands and also made two stops on the mainland of South America. Through the cordial cooperation of the British, French and Dutch officials and the helpful suggestions they made, the plant explorers saved considerable time in carrying out the exploration program. Excellent botanical gardens exist in several of the islands and at the points touched on the South American mainland. Some others are longer established and more extensive and more beautiful than any existing in North America. Those of Antigua, Dominica, St. Vincent, Demerara and Surinam were planted more than one hundred years ago and contain splendid collections of palms, shade trees, and economic plants. Although valuable plant contributions were obtained from those gardens, the party gathered a large part of its collections in the jungles and on the mountain slopes of the various islands.

The collections include a total of 702 species, representing 236 genera, roughly classified as follows:

Seventy-two were palms, 58 forage plants, 33 vegetables, 106 fruit and nut-bearing trees, vines and shrubs, and 333 ornamentals. No trace of the ancestor of the Sea Island cotton was discovered. If it formerly existed, it apparently has disappeared or has become so changed through natural hybridization has to be unrecognizable.

Sixteen Wardian cases of potted growing plants and cuttings were unloaded at Washington, in addition to several cases of seeds, some of which had been carried in cold storage. A Wardian case is a suitcase-size greenhouse or larger box similarly equipped for warmth, humidity, and watering for transfer of living plants from the tropics to distant greenhouses. A large number of cuttings and scions were also in the collection. To insure proper stocks for the budding of mango scions on arrival in Washington, fifty mango plants from the Coconut Grove, Fla., Garden were taken aboard at Miami, where the ship touched on the homeward

trip. On arrival the whole collection was inspected carefully by pathologists and entomologists, and seeds and cuttings were fumigated or treated with hot water. Where deemed desirable, some of the plants, as well as cuttings, are to be grown under quarantine to make sure that this country is protected from any possible injurious insect or disease. The plants will be tested not only in the southern United States, but also in the various tropical possessions.

In addition to the collection brought back by the expedition, several shipments of seeds and cuttings were made from various islands by air express, permitting the landing of the material in the quarantine house at Washington within five days from the time it was collected in the tropical wilds.

The expedition brought back hundreds of herbarium specimens, 2,000 still photographs and 1,100 feet of motion picture film to complete the record of its activities.

The "Utowana" has been especially equipped by Mr. Armour for plant exploration work, and contains a spacious laboratory, with a forced draft for the seed and herbarium driers, Wardian cases in which to carry rooted cuttings and plants, a dark room, microscope benches and an excellent scientific library. Launches and other small boats provide for quick landings at all kinds of beaches and islands.

The expedition carried with it seeds, scions and plants of some of the newer plants growing in Florida and the lower South and these were presented to the proper authorities at the various places visited where they could be grown and tested under proper quarantine safeguards.

Mr. Armour received the Meyer Memorial Medal for Plant Introduction in 1931 for his long interest in and valuable contributions to plant introduction. In addition to the several voyages taken in the interest of plants, he also placed his ship at the disposal of the department at the time of the Mediterranean fruit fly outbreak in Florida and took Prof. H. J. Quayle, entomologist of the University of California and collaborator of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, on a cruise of the Mediterranean countries so that Professor Quayle could study the insect at first hand and acquire new information that would be helpful in the eradication campaign in this country.

A COMMERCIAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

So far as I know there is but one such in this Southland, viz: The Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, of Pasadena. What they have not got, that will fit into the scheme of things gardening on this coast would be difficult to say. They are everlastingly trying out things new to us, a host of which are utterly worthless. This is an expensive game to play, and few nurserymen have the courage to enter the game.

I shall name a few novelties that are worthy a place in all our gardens: Agave Parryli, from seed collected in the Pinal mountains of Arizona two years ago. The plant is small, compact,

and of a dark green color tinged with pink. The calyx covering the flower bud is bright red, which is the reason careless observers have given it the name, Red Flowering Agave. After the calyx drops, and the flowers appear, they are a dull yellow. The stem is a beautiful pink from base to top. It is NOT a desert species, and MUST have water in abundance for its development where rains are few and far between.

Agave Palmerii is the most beautiful of the species when in bloom. The flowers are a rich golden yellow. Distictis cinerea, a blue flowering species of the Bignonia tribe, is a gorgeous vine when in full bloom—a semi-double, white flowering Camelia, of pendant habit of growth; a variety which originated with them. It should be named Camelia Japonica pendula, alba. I should like to see this variety given a try-out in Sacramento, where Camelias are grown as street trees, and to a degree of perfection not found elsewhere in the state. Imagine an evergreen weeping willow, with pure white Camelia flowers on the branches, and you have in mind what this tree would be like.

Enough for this time about this Garden of Rare Things. P. D. B.

MONTEZUMA CYPRESS

The Montezuma Cypress, Taxodium mucronatum, are well known at the Chapultepec palace in Mexico, where they are said to be 400 years old. This mammoth growing tree closely resembles our famous California coast redwood, which is not a success in Southern California, because it is too dry here. The first 2 trees set out in this city were planted for Mr. and Mrs. Erskine J. Campbell on Point Loma and one of these is very close to the east side of the residence and is a magnificent specimen. Other plants about the city are two at the corner of Randolph and Montecito Way, two very fine specimens on E. T. Guymon's lawn, 2055 Sunset Blvd., one at the M. T. Gilmore residence, 6th and Quince, the northwest corner. There are no good specimens in Balboa Park. A few were planted among a lot of mixed trees and shrubs that have completely choked them out. Such large growing trees require deep soil and plenty of room, set in a group of three to five, at least 75 to 100 feet apart. They are then able to develop perfectly with foliage from the ground to the top. They should never be trimmed as they grow absolutely perfect. In planting large growing trees the smaller the plant set out the better. Then growth is more rapid and more perfect. This tree is too tender for English and European gardens, so another fine asset for San Diego and her parks.

K. O. SESSIONS.

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Beaumontia Grandiflora Superba

The specimen of which I write about at this time is now two years old. When planted from a four-inch pot, it had four leaves. It is now ten feet high, apparently with a disposition to go to the top of the two-story house. If such is its desire, it shall be gratified. The foliage is large, dark green, margin wavy, and so dense that the body of the vine is hidden. Last year it made a growth of five feet, and on that growth this season a cluster of flowers grew to the delight of the garden lover who owns the garden, and the gardener who planted it. The flowers are pure white, tubular, four inches long, and slightly fragrant. The foliage persists from base to summit of the vine. With eager, anxious expectations, we await the coming of the season of '33, when the plant should be swathed in a garment of white flowers. The joy of a gardener is beyond words, and the delights that flow from gardening are beyond compare to any other vocation one may choose, either for pleasure or for profit.

If this brief tribute to the beauty of this Japanese plant will create a desire in the mind of readers of this Journal, resident of the greatest Botanic garden—Southern California—on the face of this planet, to add it to their collection I shall feel well repaid for writing of it. Keep the thought in mind however, it must have room, and plenty of it, to show its character.

P. D. B.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers

TALES OF A TRAVELER

May 2nd I boarded a Union Pacific train in Los Angeles, the destination Atlantic coast in general, New York in particular. One of the objects in mind: build a rock garden for a son, a resident of the big town. Big is the word to apply to New York City. It is beyond compare to any other city of these United States. This article is not an advertisement to boost New York. It, like a huge snowball, gathers momentum and size as it rolls down the hill we call time.

The editor of The Garden has asked me to give the readers of the journal by observations and impressions of that part of the country from the viewpoint of a gardener. It was wet, very wet, this season and because of the wetness the foliage of vegetation was thoroughly laundered all summer long. Moreover it was lush and green as I never before saw it.

I saw more water on the landscape in thirty days than I have seen during my thirty years' residence in California. It gushed from the hills, and descended upon the valleys in such abundance that streams, both large and small, were kept bank full all summer. And now for the flora. First, the exotics. How they did flourish under such moist—and I may say torrid climatic conditions. Japanese Iris were wonderful for size—some varieties as much as eight inches across their flat faces. And their colors—oh, the colors of this species of Iridacea are beautiful beyond description. Then the Azaleas, bushes aglow in flame of scarlet, of orange, of white, of pink. These, too, are from the Orient. And the Rhododendrons, bold and imposing in appearance because of the large foliage, and the great clusters of large flowers also rich in color. Where is the pen equal to the task of conveying to the mind of any reader the glory, the grandeur of the lace-like foliage and rich red color of well grown Japanese Maples?

Then, too, the fluffy, feathery spikes of As-tible Japonica. This plant is erroneously named Spirea Japonica by nurserymen who issue catalogs. It belongs to the tribe Safifragacea. While Spineas are of the tribe Sosaceae. Certainly we are indebted to Japan for some of our finest flowers for Eastern gardens. The soil which is alkaline on the Pacific coast, and the climate which is too arid, are not congenial to them, and they are so unhappy in the gardens of Southern California that no gardener with a "heart" attempts their cultivation.

Paeonias were another source of pleasure to

the writer of these lines. Great clumps of them, three and four feet tall, with bloom of some varieties a foot in diameter. Some delightfully fragrant, and some of gorgeous crimson color.

Of the wildlings I make mention of a tree, small of stature but beautiful in flower—*Prunus Virginiana*, great white plumes—in Pennsylvania Forest Preserve, where it is protected against the ravages of the vandal, who, when he or she fares forth, seem to think that it is their privilege to pull up, to break down, to destroy plant life, with which the good Lord adorns the bosom of mother earth, to be admired by His children. The *Prunus* in question is known as "red cherry" by the natives, and well does it deserve the name. When ripe, the fruit is a brilliant scarlet.

In the woods from Massachusetts to Maryland is a species of *Ericacea* which is so beautiful that I wonder it is not found in the gardens of the East. *Chimaphila Maculata* is its name—a low growing (six inches to a foot high) herbaceous plant. Flowers pure white, two to six on a slender scape, and like a pretty, modest maid when a proposition of matrimony is made to her, they hang face down, in quiet contemplation. In the open wet meadows of Rhode Island I met with a plant known as Meadow Beauty—*Rhexia virginica* is its name, and the only member of the tribe, *Melastromacea*, growing in North America. We grow one of its relatives, *Tibouchina*, in our gardens, a native of Brazil, but this dainty little beauty is unknown to any professional gardener of the East with whom I talked. A world of plant life, exquisitely beautiful is yet to be explored and studied by the majority of nurserymen of the East, and that, too, within easy reach of their gates. P. D. B.

(To Be Continued)

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FATSIA PAPYRIFERA

Of all the subjects grown in this Southland for sub-tropical effect in landscape adornment, this one is the finest; the most desirable. Under favorable conditions it will grow to a height of 20 feet, with a spread of top 10 feet. Marvelous as the statement may seem, it is a fact that the stem is not over four inches in diameter. The leaves are cordate, two feet long, and divided into 10 to 13 deeply divided segments; the upper surface dark green, the lower surface covered with a white tomentum. Petioles three feet long. The inflorescence is a marvel for beauty. It crowns the plant with a bouquet eight feet in diameter, and four feet high, composed of cream white flowers, of small dimension, and arranged in such artistic fashion, as only the master artist can, and does arrange flowers.

This is the plant known as Rice Paper Plant. The late W. R. Smith of Washington, D. C., when writing of it said: "This plant produces the beautiful substance known as rice paper; . . . the stem is full of white pith like the elder. In a full grown specimen the pith is about one inch in diameter. It is divided into pieces three inches long, and with the aid of a sharp instrument is unrolled, forming the thin, narrow sheets known as rice paper."

The plant suckers freely, and is easily propagated from root cuttings. The thought must be kept in mind when this plant is grown, that it is a gross feeder, and hard drinker, therefore to do its best it must be liberally fed, and copiously watered. P. D. B.

Eriodendron Anfractuosum

Now then reader what tree am I talking about? The Generic name is derived from the Greek: *erion*, wool, and *dendron*, tree, and an apt name it is. The ripe seed pod is about four inches long, filled with wool, or cotton, which-ever word one chooses to use, and seeds the size of sweet sea seeds. It is the wool, that is used for stuffing pillows.

Bailey uses the aboriginal name, Ceiba in his works, while the Bureau of Plant Industry for a specific name, *Pentrandra*. Once upon a time I got into a controversy with one of the Bureau's officials, and challenged the use of the vernacular name. The fellow withered me with scorn for having the nerve to challenge the august wisdom and knowledge of the department.

There are men in high places who are so egotistic, so self-centered that they think it sacrosanct to dispute their word.

Now let's get back to the tree. There are two of them—within the city limits of Los Angeles. One of them is on the Soldiers Home grounds, the other at the Administration buildings of Bell-Air. The first named has been living at a poor dying rate for twenty years. My attention was

attracted to it when in flowers years ago, and it was a subject for study for some time. In 1915 a small plant was sent me from Washington, D. C. and it is the one growing at Bell-Air.

Last year it bloomed freely, and while in flower was the joy, the supreme delight of all whose privilege it was to see it.

Immediately I began correspondence with the Mexican Government for seed. At last, verily, I succeeded in getting three small consignments from Cuba. Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, and Beverly Hills Nursery now have a few small plants. My vision is of an avenue of them in the distant future, somewhere near the coast where frosts are not severe.

The soil must be deep and well drained, and watered freely during the summer months, if they are to make the same prodigious growth of the one at Bell-Air.

December, 1910 Issue, Pacific Garden, front cover appears the picture of the Soldiers Home tree, and on pages 10 and 11, appears two pictures of the foliage and the flowers prepared especially for the publication. P. D. B.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912.

Of California Garden, published monthly at Point Loma, California, October 1, 1932.
State of California, County of San Diego, ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared Silas B. Osborn, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of the California Garden, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher, San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Calif.

Editor, Silas B. Osborn, Box 323, San Diego, Cal.
2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.) San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Cal.; Pres. Mrs. Mary A. Greer, Box 323, San Diego, Cal.; Sec. Mrs. Mary E. Ward, P. O. Box 323, San Diego, Cal. There is no capital stock.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders, as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholders or security holders appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has not reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is. (This information is required from daily publications only.)

SILAS B. OSBORN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of November, 1932.

PAUL R. FELLOWS,
Notary Public.

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